

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 14 to 21 and 24 without prejudice to inclusion in a divisional application.

Claim 1 (Amended) A cartridge for a hand operated food processor comprising a blade holder having at least one blade holder demi-lock adapted to cooperate ~~for cooperating~~ with a mating casing demi-lock on a casing so that when joined ~~to~~ together form a quick-release lock for retaining the cartridge in the casing, said cartridge including at least one blade held by the blade holder utilizable for piercing and cutting food.

Claim 2 (Original) The cartridge of claim 1 wherein the blade holder holds at least one series of aligned blades.

Claim 3 (Original) The cartridge of claim 1 where the blade holder demi-lock is a recess in the blade holder for receiving the casing demi-lock that is in the form of a spring biased latch projection.

Claim 4 (Amended) The cartridge of claim 1 wherein the blade holder includes two demi-locks in the form of cam surfaces

adapted to mate ~~mating~~ with two casing demi-locks in the form of locking cams that operate against the cam surfaces to lock the cartridge in the casing.

Claim 5 (Original) The cartridge of claim 1 wherein the cartridge has three parallel series of aligned blades.

Claim 6 (Original) The cartridge of claim 2 wherein the number of blades in each series is at least ten, each of which has a width of from about 1 to about 4 mm and the cartridge is for a meat tenderizer.

Claim 7 (Original) The cartridge of claim 2 wherein the number of blades in each series is less than five, each of which has a width of from about 1 to about 4 cm and the cartridge is for a food chopper.

Claim 8 (Amended) The cartridge of claim 3 wherein the cartridge is provided with at least two mirror image recesses so that the cartridge is adapted to ~~can~~ be inserted and locked into the casing in a plurality of orientations.

Claim 9 (Amended) A food processor having a housing comprising the cartridge of claim 1 and a casing holding the cartridge, said casing having at least one blade holder demi-lock to cooperate with ~~a casing~~ said cartridge demi-lock to together form a quick release lock that securely retains the cartridge in the casing, said cartridge being easily removable from the casing by releasing the quick release lock.

Claim 10 (Amended) The food processor of claim 9 wherein the quick release lock comprises at least one spring biased latch projection that protrudes into a recess in the blade holder of the cartridge and the cartridge is released by moving the projection against the spring bias ~~our~~ out of the recess to release retention of the cartridge within the casing.

Claim 11 (Original) The food processor of claim 10 wherein the spring biased latch projection is a plastic tab on the casing having a projection biased into the recess in the cartridge by the spring effect of plastic memory of the tab.

Claim 12 (Original) The food processor of claim 10 wherein the spring biased latch projection comprises a projection movable in a groove in the casing and a projection spring biasing the projection toward an end of the groove into the recess in the cartridge.

Claim 13 (Original) The food processor of claim 12 wherein the latch projection is secured through the groove to a control button so that movement of the control button toward the spring moves the latch projection out of the recess to release the cartridge from the casing.

Claim 14 (Canceled)

Claim 15 (Canceled)

Claim 16 (Canceled)

Claim 17 (Canceled)

Claim 18 (Canceled)

Claim 19 (Canceled)

Claim 20 (Canceled)

Claim 21 (Canceled)

Claim 22 (Original) The food processor of claim 10 where the food processor is a meat tenderizer.

Claim 23 (Original) The food processor of claim 10 where the food processor is a food chopper.

Claim 24 (Canceled)